

#### **Committee Members**

Bob Vittengl-chairman

Brigid Martin - co chair

Jason Vittengl

Eric Cirelli

**Bridget Crossman** 

Kevin Crossman

Dan Underwood

Nancy Carroll

Elizabeth Bennett

#### **Committee Mandate**

- Meet the recreational needs of our residents
- Make full use of public lands/facilities by residents
- Include recreation options for all ages and abilities
- Plan for current and expected population growth
- Prepare a comprehensive plan to take advantage of funding opportunities from both the private and public sectors
- Identify niche marketing opportunities

#### Committee Process

- Regular Communication
- Meetings
- Emails
- Field Trips
- Independent research
- Consulting experts

# Town Park and Rec. Comparisons

# Town of Moreau



Harry J Betar Recreational Park

http://www.townofmoreau.org/rec\_park \_asp

# Town of Queensbury

Queensbury Parks and Recreation

https://recreation.queensbury.net/

# Town of Wilton



Wilton Parks and Recreation

https://townofwilton.com/department s/parks-and-recreation

# **2018 Resident Comparison**

	Moreau	Wilton	Queensbury
Single Family	12,662	14, 662	22,665
Group Homes	435	22	350
Apartment Dwellers	2,842	2,915	4,917
Total	15,959	17,599	27,932

#### **Committee Visions**

- We'd like for the Town of Moreau to be a recreational hub, 12 months a years, for residents of all ages and physical abilities to use as a way to enhance their lives
- We'd like Moreau to be a community that makes full use of their public spaces by all our residents who have a desire to do so.
- We'd like the town to communicate all of the recreational offerings available with their residents in various ways so it is easier for them to use.
- We'd like to see changes made in three phases.
  - 1.)Upgrade what the town currently offers. 2.) Expand current offerings 3.)Make plans for future growth.
- We'd like the town to take into account residents with animals who would like to also use our public spaces (ie: dogs/horses).

#### 3 Big Ideas

**Communication Development** 

Expand Program Offerings

Facilities Development

Our Main Focus

1

2

3

#### 1. Communications Development

- Name change to Moreau Parks and Recreation
- Signage: for all facilities, for safety, for directions--label everything
- Exclusive web page for Parks and Recreation
- Online registration and communication tool for parents/coaches/players--for convenience, fairness, transparency and accountability. A tool for the town, organizers, coaches, parents, players etc.
- Information booths/centers at our facilities for visitors
- Recreation department headquarters/home base
- Marketing: brochures, ads, pamphlets, cross promotions, email sign ups, mailers, facebook promotions, sell naming rights etc.
- Director: one FT dedicated employee to oversee all recreational and to capitalize on all/any opportunities for our town's Parks and Recreational needs by representing our needs where need be (locally, county/ state wide etc.).

# 2. Expand Program offerings

- ☐ 12 months programs for all 4 seasons
- Online registration, online calendar and online payment option
- Partnering with local businesses and groups
- Create more group/club offerings
- More public events: concerts, farmers markets, fireworks, movie night, etc.
- Give programs 3-5 years to build a following before dumping them
- Advertise all offerings to our residents: brochures, mailers, web, social media
- Charge fees (higher for non-residents)
- Programs for all age groups, physical abilities and including pets
- More sports and activity offerings

# 3. Facilities Development

- A. Current facility Upgrade Suggestions
- B. Current facility add on suggestion
- C. New facility suggestions

### Overview of Current Town Facilities

Recreational and or Inactive

- 1.Moreau recreational Park (open year round)-sports fields, ice rink, tennis courts, batting cage, vball, tennis, basketball, playground, wooded trails, pavillions, concession stands, lavatories, maintenance building----soon a splash park and universal playground
- 2. Sandbar beach (opens seasonally) -beach, swimming area with life guards, play ground, sports section (bball, vball), fishing, beach house with lavatories
- 3. Old Town Hall in village (inactive)-
- 4. Nolan Road river front (unknown and unused by the public)
- 5. Old Sheriff's building (inactive--used for storage)

#### A. Current facility Upgrade Suggestions

- Upgrade Sandbar beach and beach house
- Convert old town hall in the village into teen tech center
- Convert current recreation garage into information/recreation dept. home base at the Betar Recreational park
- Develop Nolan Road river front (400 acres on the riverfront)
- Convert former Sheriff's station into a meeting/business incubator
- Trails
  - upgrade and expand trails in the woods
  - add lights
  - add storyboards about history and or the environment on trails or Storywalks™ for kids
- Signage upgrade for each facility and signage for directing traffic to facilities
- Upgrade and add more covered pavilions: add lights, fans, online registration
- TLC items, flowers pots, esthetically pleasing garbage and recycling cans etc.

# B. Current facility add on suggestions

Add dedicated trails/lanes for cyclists
Paved trail options for wheelchairs, walkers, runners etc.
Fenced in community garden area
Create a pavillion for farmers markets (near the community garden)
Universal Playground/splash park CK
Covered ice skating rink
Hockey only rink (with walls and lights)
Add tire pump/bike fixit station and bike racks by all trail heads
More sports fieldsmore exclusive sports field (ie. LAX only, soccer only, practice fields, etc.)
Bandstand / Movie screen
Information booth
New Maintenance building
Practice wall for tennis
Pickleball courts
Lap lanes at beach
More equipment promotionget everything out of storagesnowshoes, cross country skis, kayaks
etc.

### C. New facility suggestions

- Dog Park: (for small and large dogs) including a waterfront area for dogs
- Moreau loop cycling trail system: linking into other trail systems developing state wide and regionally
- Convert old railway to trails to connect the village to the town (rails to trails)
- Signage to promote an outdoor living community: cycling safety tips, well marked facilities, activities and trails
- Pump Park---skate park (Rec. or Nolan road)
- Self guided obstacle course in the woods (Rec. or Nolan Road)
- Expand trail system throughout town and village, include lights, signs and marketing (including roads, parks, schools, village, etc.)
- Misc. sports: Miniature golf, driving range, bocce ball courts, horseshoe pits, frisbee golf

### New facility suggestions (cont.)

- Movement/field house Complex--Community Center, for year round use from sports to yoga-- on the new property going towards Ft. Edward Road
- Aquatic center --partnering with the school, year round swimming
- Rowing/boat Center-- on river (Nolan Road)
- Cycling center -- Hub for cyclists
- Build a Bandstand (at Rec and or on the river or Nolan Road)
- Offer trails for horse and parking for their equipment
- Campsites--lean toos (Nolan road)
- ADK chairs and book nooks along the river
- Astronomy-sky watcher stand
- Riverfront pavilions and year round event venue

## Funding ideas

- Raise taxes.....Just kidding
- Use funds on hands and continue to collect from developers
- Grant applications
- Corporate partnerships
- Private partnerships
- Civic organization partnerships
- School system partnerships
- Cooperation with other municipalities for shared expenses
- Charge fees
- Solicit county support/funds
- Host events to generate revenues

# Follow Up Suggestions

- Create follow up subcommittees (ie. signs, sports/fields, trails/cycling, waterfront/parks, events)
- Prioritize the suggestions
- Solicit professional advise
- Determine project budgets
- Do the simple projects first
- Seek public and private input
- Seek public and private funding
- Keep revising/adding to the wish list
- Create an ongoing Parks and Recreation COMMUNITY leaders advisory committee with: the new athletic director at South High, a few board members, a few residents, a few league reps, a community center liasson, business leaders (so the progress and vision does not solely rely on our "elected" officials-which can be subject to change)---with more buy in comes better results too.

# Summary

Moreau is a great place to live and raise a family. We are blessed with vast outdoor spaces and water on three sides of our town. This is a perfect time to take advantage of the town, county, regional and state growth when it comes to outdoor and public space offerings for trails, parks and waterfront development.

Most members of this group would be happy to head up Subcommittees to follow up on the various projects/suggestions listed in this report. Citizens, politicians, businesses and professionals could really help ensure that the vision/ideas listed in this report go to the next of vetting.

Thank you